

GOUDA): (a) and (b). On the advice of Government of India, Coal India Ltd. have introduced the system of advance payments for coal by power sector. Under this system State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities will pay for the coal in advance before it is despatched to them.

(c) Actual supply of wagons by the Railways depends on availability of wagons to form rakes, and availability of rail capacity to move the rakes. Therefore some gap between allotments of wagons, and actual supplies cannot be ruled out.

(d) To (f). There may be some short-falls in actual movement of coal to some consumers, including textile mills in Gujarat, because of priority movement of coal by rail to core sectors like power. However, coal companies have been instructed to supply at least 50% of linked quantity of coal to all industries, by rail or by road. No shortage in availability of coal is anticipated either in the current year or in coming years, except for some high quality metallurgical grade coal, which is imported for blending purposes. The Government is taking steps to raise the production of direct feed and washed coking coal from 10.5 million tonnes in the current year to 13.97 million tonnes in 1996-97.

**Memorandum of Understanding by  
Public Sector Undertakings with  
workers' Union**

2465. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Public Enterprises has advised various public sector enterprises not to make any commitment or sign Memorandum of Understanding with their workers' union; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government are

taking or contemplating to safeguard the interest of workers in the face of severe price rise and inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K THUNGON): (a) and (b). The issues relating to wage policy for the next round of negotiations with the workers and industrial D.A. formula are under the active consideration of the Government. Till such time the Government formulates the new wage policy for the 5th round of wage negotiations, the D.A. is to be paid to the workers as per the existing D.A. Scheme.

[Translations]

**Deputation of I.P.S. Officers**

2466. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the I.P.S. officers from various States are taken on deputation in the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the number of officers on deputation since the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes The I.P.S. officers from various State cadres are taken on deputation to the Union Government in the following categories of posts

- (i) the posts in the Central Police Organisations;
- (ii) the posts in the Central Secretariat under the Central Staffing Scheme; and